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15 July 1974

Frankie
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MEMORANDUM FOR: []

SUBJECT: Post Mortem, Phase II

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1. In reviewing the 3 May Catalogue of projects and studies, there seems to me to be a clear distinction between those which are directly related to the October War and those which are only incidentally related and of longer term. I think we should concentrate on completing the former (as to some extent we are doing), since their conclusions will presumably have a bearing on the latter. I note, for example, that [] and others are deeply involved in a variety of projects related to the watch and warning functions and crisis management, while the study of the community's production during the October War is still uncompleted. This strikes me as putting the cart before the horse.

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3. Only two other items in the 3 May Catalogue are directly related [] (4) was apparently dropped by agreement with DIA. The study on the [] is being conducted by [] PRD is monitoring.

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4. Of the remaining 11 projects/studies, five are concerned with the watch/warning/crisis management area and are closely inter-related. The Watch Committee has come up with recommendations for major changes in the Watch Mechanism (7), and we are currently reviewing them. The [] project (9) is moving ahead. The National Situation Summary project (6) is not, apparently on the assumption that it can't be done without the prior establishment of new mechanisms--e.g. []. The project on the National Nervous System (8) has become entangled in the DOD action on NSDM 242, and I gather is unlikely to go anywhere for many months. The projected study on Alert Procedures (5) was looked on as an umbrella study covering everything being done in this area, but no action has been taken. The problem is so broad and multi-faceted that I think it might well be useful to the DCI, USIB, and ourselves

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to spell out where we think we're going and what specifically we're doing about it.

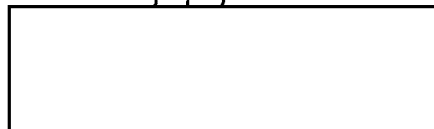
5. Of the remaining six projected projects/studies, three have been or should be dropped, either because they probably are not doable or because they are unlikely to result in useful products.



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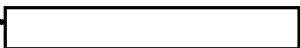
6. The remaining three projects/studies of the 3 May Catalogue are highly significant issues in the community and are being mulled over in various different forums. My impression is that PRD has not yet figured out how to get a handle on them, and I have no bright ideas on what to do about them at this time. They are Challenge Procedures (2), Collector-Analyst Interchange (14), and Designing the Collection Product (15).

7. I suggest we stop referring to the projects/studies in paragraphs 4 and 6 above as Post Mortem studies. The formal Post Mortem of the October War will then end with the completion of the studies referred to in paragraph 2.



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Attachment:
6 May Draft

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